

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-02 LAB-04 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-01 TAR-01

TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 FEA-01 AF-06

ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-09 OIC-02 /127 W

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R 211730Z FEB 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 888

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 1194

PASS STR WOLFF FROM MCNAMAR

E.O. 11652: XGDS1

TAGS: ETRD, GATT

SUBJECT: MTN: GROUP CHAIRMEN

1. SUMMARY: WHILE EC BELIEVES MTN GROUP SHOULD BE CHAIRED BY SECRETARIAT, MANY OTHER COUNTRIES PREFER REPRESENTATIVES FROM PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES. MTN DELEGATION BELIEVES BEST APPROACH WOULD BE MIXTURE OF SECRETARIAT CHAIRMEN FOR SOME GROUPS AND COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVES FOR OTHERS.

2. U.S. MTN DELEGATION HAS CONSULTED INFORMALLY WITH A NUMBER OF OTHER DELEGATIONS ABOUT QUESTION OF CHAIRMANSHIP OF MTN GROUPS ESTABLISHED BY TNC LAST WEEK. U.S. DEL EXPLAINED THAT U.S. IS PRESENTLY EXPLORING ALTERNATIVES BEFORE REACHING CONCLUSIONS AND HAS NO POSITION ON QUESTION AT PRESENT.

3. EC (LUYTEN) STRONGLY BELIEVES GATT SECRETARIAT SHOULD "STAY ON" AS CHAIRMEN OF GROUPS, BUT IT RECOGNIZES PROBLEMS OF FINDING SUFFICIENT ABLE SECRETARIAT CHAIRMEN FOR NUMEROUS NTB SUBGROUPS. EC ASSERTS IT HAS NO  
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"ABSOLUTE, CATEGORICAL AND FINAL POSITION" IN SUPPORT

SECRETARIAT CHAIRMEN, BUT BELIVES IT WILL BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO GET BALANCED INDIVIDUALS FROM DELEGATIONS TO CHAIR AGRICULTURE, TARIFFS AND NTB GROUPS. PIZZUTTI STATED EC ADAMAND THAT SECRETARIAT MUST CHAIR AGRICULTURE GROUP. EC ALSO IRRITATED AT SINGLE SLATE APPROACH BEING PUSHED BY CANADA, AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND, RATHTER THAN ARRAY OF NAMES FOR EACH GROUP.

4. CANADA (MEL CLARK), AUSTRALIA (MOORE-WILTON) AND NEW ZEALAND (FALCONER) VIGOROUSLY OPPOSE SECRETARIAT CHAIRING MOST OR ALL GROUPS, ASSERTING THAT SECRETTARIAT IS NO MORE -- AND PERHAPS LESS -- NEUTRAL THAN COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVES. THEY STAT UNSATISFACTORY KENNEDY ROUND EXPERIENCE OF SECRETARIAT CHAIRING GROUPS DEMONSTRATES NEED FOR COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE CHAIRMEN. THEY BELIEVE THEY WOULD HAVE EVEN LESS LEVERAGE OVER SECRETARIAT CHAIRMEN THAN COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVES AND BELIEVE SECRETARIAT SIMPLY NOT EQUIPPED, ESPECIALLY AT UPPER LEVELS, TO RUN NEGOTIATIONS. THEY ARE PROMOTING IN VARYING DEGREES FOLLOWING AS CHAIRMEN:

- A. TARIFFS - COLLIANDER (SWEDEN)
- B. NTBS - STUYCK (BELGIUM) OR DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL PATTERSON
- STANDARDS - EASTHAM (CANADA)
- SUBSIDIES/COUNTERVAILING - PERHAPS DUNKEL (SWITZERLAND)
- OTHER NTB SUBGROUPS - NO CANDIDATES
- C. SECTORS - EASTERBROOK-SMOTH (NEW ZEALAND)
- D. SAFEGUARDS - GREY (CANADA)
- E. AGRICULTURE - SAHLGREN (FINLAND), MACIEL (BRAZIL), WARWICK - SMITH (AUSTRALIA) OR MINER (CANADA)
- F. TROPICAL PRODUCTS - NO CANDIDATE

5. JAPAN HAS AN "OPEN MIND" ON ISSUE, BELIEVING IT IMPORTANT TO GET BEST MAN FOR EACH GROUP, IRRESPECTIVE OF AFFILIATION. IT CAN AGREE TO WHATEVER MAJORITY (I.E., U.S. AND EC )PREFERS BUT SEEMS TO BE LEANING TOWARD SECRETARIAT CHAIRMEN. IT DOES FEEL THAT CHAIRMEN SHOULD BE RESIDENT IN GENEVA OR NEARBY.

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6. LDCS HAVE MIXED VIEWS. SOME (GARRIDO OF MEXICO AND MEDEIROS OF BRAZIL) BELIEVE HADVING SECRETARIAT CHAIR GROUPS WOULD AVOID INEVITABLE AND UNDESIRABLE (UNCTAD-LIKE REGIONAL BANANCE AMONG LDC'S. OTHERS (TAN OF SINGAPORE) BELIEVE COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVES, NOT REPEAT NOT SECRETARIAT, SHOULD CHAIR GROUPS.

7. GATT SECRETARIAT CLEARLY PREFERS THAT SECRETARIAT CHAIR GROUPS, BOTH IN ORDER AVOID SERIOUS FIGHT AMONG DELEGATIONS AS WELL AS TO CONTROL SCOPE AND PACE OF NEGOTIATIONS.

8. COMMENT: COLLIANDER CHAIRED TARIFF STUDY GROUP, WAS A VERY KNOWLEDGEABLE, FAIR AND OBJECTIVE CHAIRMAN. STUYCK CHAIRED CTIP IN BALANCED MANNER, HAS CONSIDERABLE EXPERIENCE, BUT HE RESIDES IN BRUSSELS. FRENCH REPORTEDLY INTENSELY DISLIKE HIM. PATTERSON IS OF COURSE VERY ABLE; SOME VIEW HIM AS TOO CLOSE TO WASHINGTON. EASTHAM IS MOST LOGICAL CHOICE FOR COMPLICATED PROBLEMS OF STANDARDS GROUP, HE RESIDES IN LONDON; CANADIAN MISSION BELIEVES HE CAN BE MADE AVAILABLE. DUNKEL HAS CHAIRED MANY GATT GROUPS IN CREDITABLE MANNER BUT MAY NOT BE AS NEUTRAL AS WE WOULD NEED FOR SUBSIDIES GROUP. ESTERBROOK-SMITH IS UNKNOWN QUALITY FOR SECTORS GROUP. NEW ZEALAND IS NOT HEAVILY COMMITTED IN THIS AREA. GREY IS SHARP-TONGUED, VERY EXPERIENCED NEGOTIATOR, WELL KNOWN TO WASHINGTON, WHO HAS NEVER BEEN ACCUSED OF BEING BALANCED. CANADIAN ALLEGE NOT CAMPAIGNING, ONLY THAT SEVERAL DELEGATIONS HAVE SUGGESTED HIM. SAHLGREN IS FREQUENT CHOICE AS CHAIRMAN GATT WORKING PARTIES. MACIEL IS UNKNOWN QUALITY. WARWICK-SMITH WOULD BE UTTERLY OPPOSED BY EC; AUSTRALIAN MISSION ASSERTS HE TOO BUSY CHAIR ANY GROUP. MINER IS UNKNOWN QUALITY. OTHER POSSIBLE CANDIDATES: DUNEKY FOR SAFEGUARDS GROUP, SINCE HE WAS SELECTED AS CHAIRMAN CTIP SAFEGUARDS GROUP WHICH NEVER MET; MARTINEZ (ARGENTINA) WHOM EC DISLIKES; TOMIC (YUGOSLAVIA), ABLE FORMER CTD CHAIRMAN, FOR TROPICAL PRODUCTS GROUP; MARTENS (AUSTRIA) FOR AGRICULTURE, SUGGESTED BY AUSTRALIA (BUT HAS NOT SHOWN MUCH DRIVE OR LEADERSHIP IN OTHER GENEVA MEETINGS).; CHADHA (INDIA);

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WALKER (JAMAICA); HUSLID (NORWAY) WHO IS VERY BALANCED ANTI-DUMPING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN; LAI (MALAYSIA) WHO IS CHAIRMAN OF GATT CP'S.

9. WE BELIEVE NO NEED MAKE DIFFICULT CHOICES NOW; SECRETARIAT CAN CHAIR FIRST MEETINGS. IT PROBABLY BEST FOR U.S. TO KEEP FLEXIBILITY ON THIS QUESTION, ULTIMATELY OPTING FOR MIXTURE OF BEST COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVES AND SECRETARIAT MEMBERS. HOWEVER, WE HAVE ENCOUNTERED SOME RESISTANCE TO CONCEPT OF REJECTING ONE OR TWO SECRETARIAT CHAIRMEN IN FAVOR OF NATIONAL CHAIRMEN AND RETAINING REMAINDER SECRETARIAT SLATE, BASED ON RELUCTANCE TO SINGLE OUT AND OFFEND SECRETARIAT STAFF. DALE

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